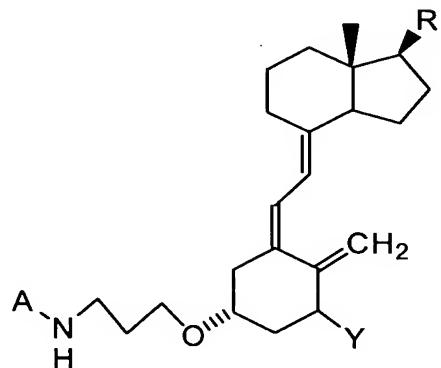


ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

The preparation of vitamin D compounds of formula (I) with
a label attached to a spacer group in the 3 position is
5 disclosed.



In the above formula (I), O represents the oxygen atom of
an ether group; Y represents hydrogen or hydroxy; A
10 represents a label such as biotin, digoxigenin, or another
vitamin D group; R represents a substituted hydrocarbon
side-group of vitamin D or a vitamin D metabolite. Also
disclosed is a method of measuring 25-hydroxy vitamin D
metabolite and a $1\alpha,25$ -dihydroxy vitamin D metabolite in a
15 sample.